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News Release

ICE DEPORTS 60 MEXICO CITIZENS FROM 6 STATE REGION

CHICAGO— José De Lira-Trancoso, a 25-year-old convicted of criminal gang activity for carrying an unlicensed handgun within 1,000 feet of Chandler Elementary School in Goshen, Ind., and Luis Salgado-Alvarez, a 20-year-old convicted of aggravated battery for stabbing his victim several times in the back during a gang-related dispute in Green Bay, Wis., were two of 60 Mexico citizens deported Friday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Thirty-six of those deported had criminal convictions for violations ranging from aggravated assault, burglary and forgery to sexual offenses and drug possession.

This large number of removals in one week reflects the national trend of increased deportations as ICE restores integrity to the nation's immigration system.

ICE's Chicago office, which encompasses Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Kansas and Missouri, is responsible for detaining and deporting aliens in accordance with immigration laws.

"A priority for ICE is to get criminals off our streets and keep America secure," said ICE Field Office Director Debbie Achim, who leads detention and removal operations for Chicago. "We are bringing to bear the full force of our authorities to locate and remove illegal aliens from the country."

Chicago ICE deported 6,077 criminal and illegal aliens living in the agency's Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Kansas operational area in fiscal year 2004, an increase of 24 percent over the previous year.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

Page 1 of 1 www.ice.gov